



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wyoming State Office

P.O. Box 1828

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828



IN REPLY REFER TO:

1610 (930)

Casper Resource Management Plan

November 21, 2007

Paul Morris
Slawson Exploration Company, Inc.
1675 Broadway, Suite 1600
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you for providing comments on the Proposed Casper Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Your letter provided two comments. Attached is a summary of your comments along with the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) response to each comment.

We appreciate your interest and involvement in the development of the Casper RMP. If you have any questions, or wish to discuss any issues or concerns regarding the plan, please call Jim Murkin, Casper Field Manager, at 307-261-7600, or Jane Darnell, Deputy State Director for Resources Policy and Management, at 307-775-6113.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Bennett
State Director

Attachment

Casper Resource Management Plan

Comment 1: “Our corporation owns significant Federal Lessee's rights specifically in Townships 35, 36 N R 76, 77, 78 W, Natrona County, and generally in all of Converse County. This study area's recommendations would severely hamper our future development plans for both of these counties. We have invested large amounts of seismic, lease and drilling dollars in Federal leases counting upon the idea of further consolidating and expanding our leasehold onto future federal leases.”

Response: Please note that under the Proposed Plan, unleased Federal minerals within the Sand Hills Management Area (MA) are administratively unavailable to oil and gas leasing but development of existing oil and gas leases is allowed as discussed on Page 4-2 of the PRMP/FEIS. Surface-disturbing activities, however, are subject to intensive management to meet the objectives for the area (PRMP/FEIS, Page 4-256).

Comment 2: “Recent seismic and drilling operations within the RMP area have taught our company new ways to deal with the sand dune areas and we continue to increase our expertise in this area. We look forward to working with the BLM to find the best methods of operations within these boundaries. We will continue to have operations in these areas even if this RMP goes into effect. Making the Sand Hills MA administratively unavailable to oil and gas leasing and/or seismic activities is a step backward in time when we need new and innovative proposals to move the BLM forward. Making the Sand Hills MA administratively unavailable to oil and gas leasing and/or seismic activities is a step backward in time when we need new and innovative proposals to move the BLM forward.”

Response: Please note a reasonable range of alternatives were developed for management of the Sand Hills MA. An alternative for continued oil and gas leasing was considered and analyzed (PRMP/FEIS, Page 2-93, Alternative D). The BLM's Proposed Resource Management Plan balances resource conservation and resource uses and reflects the best combination of decisions to achieve BLM goals and policies, meet the purpose and need, and meet the needs of present and future generations.